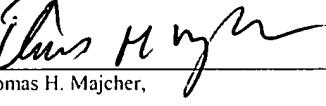


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 29, 2003.


Thomas H. Majcher,

Reg. No. 31,119

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : **NEW CONTINUATION APPLICATION**
Con of Serial No. : 09/476,159, Filed: December 30, 1999
Applicant : William J. Boyle et al.
Filed : Herewith
Prior Art Unit : 3763
Prior Examiner : Lewis, M.
Title : EMBOLIC PROTECTION DEVICES

Docket No.: : ACS 66147 (1738C) December 29, 2003
Customer No. : 24201 Los Angeles, California
Express Mail No. : EV 327061559 US

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment for the above identified continuation application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b), filed simultaneously herewith. Entry of the following amendment prior to examination of the application is respectfully requested.